

Message Text

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ACTION SS-25

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O 221601Z AUG 77
FM AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
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INFO AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY GABORONE PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LAGOS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA PRIORITY
T/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE 1829

C O N F I D E N T I A L PRETORIA 4270

EXDIS

LAGOS FOR YOUNG AND MOOSE

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PDEV, RH, UK
SUBJECT: RHODESIA PROPOSALS FOR SETTLEMENT

REF: PRETORIA 4213, STATE 199049,

1. SIR DAVID SCOTT ASKED ME TO STOP BY HIS HOUSE LAST NIGHT. HAROLD HAWKINS WAS THERE REVIEWING HIS NOTES OF PIK BOTHA'S AUGUST 18 MEETING WITH SMITH WHEN I ENTERED. I MISSED THE FIRST HALF HOUR OF THEIR DISCUSSION BUT FROM WHAT I HEARD BOTHA'S DESCRIPTION OF THE MEETING (PRETORIA 4213) IS GENERALLY ACCURATE EXCEPT THAT BOTHA BRIEFED SMITH IN MORE DETAIL THAN HE ADMITTED TO ME.

2. THE SALIENT POINTS OF HAWKINS REVIEW OF THE
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 PRETOR 04270 221626Z

SALISBURY MEETING ARE THE FOLLOWING:

A. BOTHA AND FOURIE WENT A LONG WAY TO ENCOURAGE SMITH THAT THE ANGLO-AMERICAN PACKAGE IS FAIR AND THE BEST THAT COULD BE OBTAINED.

B. ALTHOUGH BOTHA AND FOURIE WENT OUT OF THEIR WAY TO EMPHASIZE THAT THEY WERE NOT RPT NOT PRESSURING

SMITH TO ACCEPT THE PROPOSALS, THEY MADE CLEAR THAT THESE WERE NOT RPT NOT OPEN TO NEGOTIATION ALTHOUGH THERE WERE DETAILS TO BE FILLED IN.

C. BOTHA EXPLAINED THAT DURING THE TRANSITIONAL PERIOD THERE WOULD HAVE TO BE SOME CHANGES IN COMMAND OF THE RHODESIAN FORCES AND SOME UNITS (E.G. SELOUS SCOUTS) DISBANDED, BUT THE CORE WOULD REMAIN INTACT AND SEPARATE FROM THE PATRIOTIC FRONT FORCES. RESIDENT COMMISSIONER AND UN FORCE WOULD MAINTAIN LIAISON WITH THE DIFFERENT FORCES, LEAVING UP TO NEW ZIMBABWE GOVERNMENT HOW TO INTEGRATE THE NEW ARMY.

D. HAWKINS SAID SMITH REACTED COOLY TO THE PROPOSALS BUT ACCEPTED BOTHA'S INSISTENCE THAT THE PACKAGE SHOULD NOT BE REJECTED OUT OF HAND.

3. COMMENT: DURING THE PAST WEEK IN CONVERSATIONS WITH BOTHA AND FOURIE BOTH HAVE EXPRESSED THEIR UNDERSTANDING (BASED ON THE LONDON TALKS) THAT DURING THE TRANSITION PERIOD THE RHODESIAN AND PF FORCES WOULD BE KEPT APART. THIS IS BASED I THINK ON THEIR INTERPRETATION OF PARA 11(C)(3) AND ON THE FACT THAT THE PAPER GIVEN BOTHA IN LONDON DOES NOT ADDRESS THE POINT OF FORMATION OF THE NEW ZIMBABWE ARMY (LONDON 13940). I AGREE THAT THERE SHOULD BE INCLUDED A NEW PARAGRAPH 11(E) IN THE CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 PRETOR 04270 221626Z

PROPOSALS, BUT FEAR THAT UNLESS THIS IS EXPLAINED TO THE SOUTH AFRICANS IN ADVANCE OF PRESENTATION OF THE DOCUMENT TO SELECTED GOVERNMENTS AS CONTEMPLATED IN STATE 199049 OR OF PUBLICATION OF THE WHITE PAPER, THERE IS A POTENTIAL FOR SERIOUS MISUNDERSTANDING THAT WE ARE SLIPPING NEW CONCEPTS INTO THE PACKAGE FAVORABLE TO THE PATRIOTIC FRONT. THIS MIGHT BE AVOIDED IF SIR DAVID SCOTT AND I WERE INSTRUCTED TO PRESENT PARA 11(E) TO BOTHA AS AN AMENDMENT TO THE PAPER CONVERING A POINT THAT WAS OVERLOOKED IN THE DRAFT GIVEN THEM IN LONDON. BOWDLER

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